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The Masonic Craftsman

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of Freemasonry*

In This Issue: Can Freemasonry Survive in a Totalitarian World?

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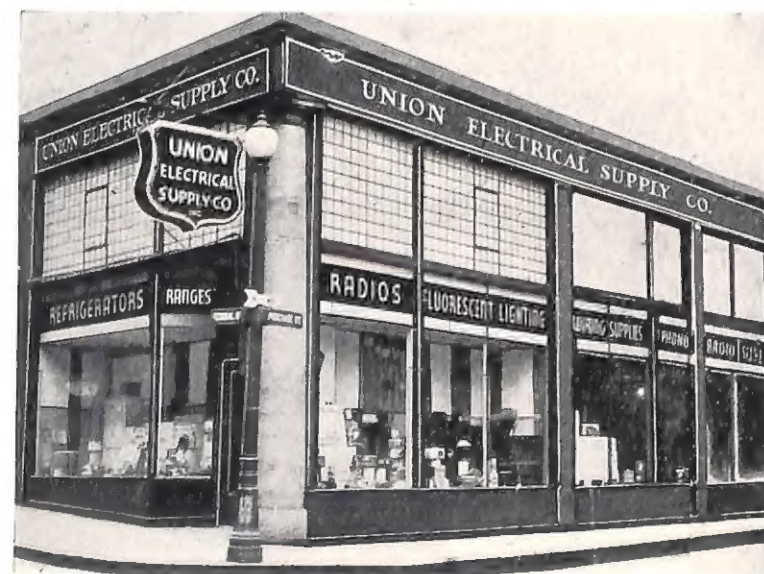
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MY COUNTRY

"This is my country—mine to keep
Within my heart until I sleep
Too soundly to give heed to song
Beyond my window. I belong
Within these borders bounded by
New England walls and mountain-high
Horizons. You who do not know
The drifted loveliness of snow
Upon these glacial hills, deride
These pinelands greening to the tide
That rose and broke, historically,
Against a rock in Plymouth. Key
Your laughter to the sterner note
Of Men, unmusical, who smote
On granite with the ancient rod
Of Moses—watering the sod
With faith abundant for their needs.
I love this soil where even weeds
Grow beautifully as goldenrod,
Or chicory, and faith in God
Is adamant as are the hills,
From whose aloofness summer spills
The grace of rain upon the land,
Where whispering rows of cornstalks stand
In fertile valleys. Here my heart
Abides. I am all integrant part
Of stubborn soil. My roots are here
Where man companions with the deer
And shares the vesper sparrows' song
At silver eventide. I belong
To Yankeeland. My neighbors are
The strong-limbed offering of a star."

HARRY ELMORE HURD

NEW ENGLAND Masonic Craftsman

ALFRED HAMPDEN MOORHOUSE, Editor

MEMBER MASONIC PRESS ASSOCIATION

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EASTER One event above all others justifies the belief of Christians—EASTER! That momentous happening stripped of all superfluities gives hope to humanity of victory over death. Since the resurrection morning nearly 2000 years ago when the mourners saw the risen Lord again in the flesh, there has swept around the world a resistless surge of faith in immortality, a faith that has conquered doubt and inspired millions to sacrificial service, demonstrating the supremacy of spiritual over material things.

Without Easter, life would be dark indeed.

Today crass materialism is rampant and the world shudders with its impact. Yet soon, when the mortal remains of those responsible for present evil days are resolved to dust again, there will revive and grow and glow again that undying faith which is built upon Easter.

The caveat to the Templar "order of Christian Knight-hood" is clear: inculcate ideals of Christ-like character not only in its own initiates but in all others with whom it comes in contact. A nobler objective does not exist. Its fulfillment will add luster to its escutcheon and make for it an imperishable monument high above all else.

VINCIT OMNIA It is mystifying to most Masons to find in their daily reading of the news frequent charges laid against the Craft by totalitarian chiefs of state. We are excoriated without restraint.

According to Hitler, Il Duce, Franco, et al., the underlying cause of the world's troubles are due to the malevolent machinations of Freemasons, Jews and the plutocratic minority in the democratic states.

The vehemence of the libel robs it of its merit; its lack of logic is utterly unconvincing to one with even rudimentary comprehension of the functioning of Freemasonry. If by the term "Masonic" is implied a fraternity of free men, it is possible to understand why the very fact of their freedom is anathema to dictatorship, for the Craft in its primary purpose is in truth dedicated to the principle of a universal brotherhood of man but under a Divine Creator rather than any earthly despot. The latter's course on earth is at best of brief duration, hence of small consequence. This thought conceivably is what rouses the ire of the orators when they revile against fate with emphasis void of logic, with vile charges laid particularly against Freemasons.

There have been others throughout history who sought by force to impose their will upon nations and peoples. They had certain temporary successes, but

inevitably events spoiled their plans. Fate caught up with them. The spirit of free men cannot be crushed or controlled indefinitely by fear or force. If it pleases dictators to make oratorical outbursts against Freemasonry then so be it. *We seek no enemies.* In the end vilification and false charges will react against their makers for "truth is mighty above all things and will prevail."

SERVICE Among the United States' armed forces, land, sea and air, are many men who are members of the Masonic fraternity. While the teachings of Freemasonry are all directed toward peaceful solution of all sociological problems, a considerable part of the world has not yet become persuaded to the same philosophy; and so because of a dire threat to destroy free institutions, these men, obeying a call to duty, have enlisted to defend their country's liberty.

It would be precocious for any individual to say just how these Masons should spend such leisure time as they may have, yet it is doubtless true with many that their natural cultural or social background finds them often with time hanging heavily on their hands. They are in fact, lonely—longing perhaps for an opportunity to fraternize with men of their own sort in suitable surroundings, rather than the necessarily rough and restricted atmosphere of a purely military camp.

During the birth of this republic British regiments often carried their Freemasonry with them. Some of the most interesting phases of our early history pertain to the meetings of "army lodges" and the forming of new lodges under the aegis of famous regiments.

We've come a long way since 1795 and things are different now; yet the fundamentals of Freemasonry remain unchanged. It seems, therefore, not unreasonable to expect that some provision will be made to afford the present generation of military Masons appropriate opportunity to fraternize with their fellows, and demonstrate those friendly and brotherly feelings which are so important a feature of Masonic Craftsmanship.

The advantage of providing facilities for keeping the spiritual and moral standards of the men in service high are obvious, and need no elaboration. Alertness of our Craft leaders in this direction should be made plain in definite action to a desirable end.

UNDOING After this war is over not the least of the compelling duties confronting its survivors and particularly those who will make the policy of the future is the destruction of the false facade set up before the German peoples as its rule and guiding faith.

When Hitlerism in all its hideous ugliness has been destroyed—as it must be, there will remain for its unfortunate dupes the unlearning of much, in fact most, of the false philosophy with which they have been so sedulously indoctrinated.

That reason rebels against the Nazi conception of

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MASONIC PEACE MEMORIAL, LONDON, ENGLAND. SYMBOL OF PEACE IN A WORLD AT WAR.
[Latest reports indicate that but superficial damage has been done to this beautiful Temple of Freemasonry in bombed Britain]

Right is easily understandable when the essentials with which it would endow the State are analyzed, and as no permanent structure can be built upon any foundation other than truth, a little light on the Nazi doctrine will serve to illuminate the measures used by its leaders and the fallacy of their true force in the light of proved understanding, in so far as human intelligence has been enabled to see the light through centuries of painful and patient research.

Some of the processes by which the National Socialist party, which is another name for Nazism, came to power are illuminating. For instance the *Fuhrer* took advantage of "the inexperience and easy credulity of youth," and was thus able to organize his adolescent adherents for *der Tag*. His *Weltanschauung* (World-outlook) became the German gospel which demanded unquestioning reverence and obedience of all.

The school curricula are permeated with Nazism. *Geopolitik*, *Wehrphysik*, *Rassenkunde* and *Gelandesport* have become the newly emphasized school subjects. Teachers are almost all members of the National Socialist Teachers' League, several thousand of them being active in the party as officers and members. Needless to note these teachers are in the service of the move-

ment. Knowledge has been placed last in the scale of educational values, after heredity, character (i.e., the degree of usefulness in war). Is it any wonder that the standard of education in Germany today is below that of England and the United States.

Religious education consists of a perverted Christianity, the so-called "Positive Christianity"—advocating hatred instead of love, arrogance in place of humility, and force as preferable to charity. The entire "religious" curriculum is an insult to the Christian religion. Hitler and other Nazi heroes receive the adoration formerly reserved for Jesus. A typical apotheosis reads, "How high Horst Wessel towers over that Jesus of Nazareth! . . . How unattainably high all Horst Wessels stand above this Jesus!" The opening prayer of the class in Roman Catholicism is, "Heil Hitler! Blessed be Jesus Christ in all Eternity, Amen." In the concluding benediction, however, the order is reversed, "Blessed be Jesus Christ in all Eternity, Amen. Heil Hitler!"

These are samples of the methods practised on the plastic mind of German youth. Where they have led the German nation and what their ultimate destiny will be is now being shaped in the matrix of war.

It will not be easy to undo the almost irretrievable

injury that has been inflicted upon the individuals comprising a mighty nation; but it will have to be done. Uprooting these false ideals will have a terrific impact in its disillusionment upon the minds of the falsely led people, the consequences of which will be felt for generations to come.

In the process it is to be hoped the old spirit of German Freemasonry will be found to contain some spark of life, that it may continue to function and participate in the re-creation of a better state up from the depths to which the false doctrines of its leaders had dropped it.

SABOTEURS? It is always sad to see the insidious results of microscopic parasites on beautiful things. The mightiest elms of Massachusetts, for instance, and part of her crowning glory, are threatened by, of all things: a beetle. Struggle and strife are a part of life; to survive, an adequate defense against enemies, inside and out, must always be maintained.

During World War I the Masonic fraternity in this country sought, commendably, to make the lives of its soldiers in their arduous duties more tolerable, proposing certain amenities to that end—all to be done by and through its own efforts and without cost to the government.

The plan failed. Why? Because, as Freemasonry functions in this country, there are 49 separate and sovereign jurisdictions, each with its own rights and privileges; its diverse elements not all clear in their views nor sympathetic in their understanding of major principles—in short, no central authority. Uncle Sam declined, quite understandably, to permit the good intentions of the Craft to materialize into action through so heterogeneous an instrumentality. There was heart-burning and disillusionment in consequence, and some feeling that the more politically-conscious Knights of Columbus had "put one over." Certainly that organization subsequently got a pretty free hand and much credit, as did also the Y.M.C.A.

However, that is water over the dam. This is 1941.

As a result of the rebuff of 1917 the Masonic Service Association was organized with the specific purpose of caring for just such national emergencies. During the intervening years it has served admirably within its limits as a representative body. At the present time a slight majority of the 49 Grand Lodges of the United States are active and supporting members of the Association. It maintains a small staff in the nation's capital, ably directed by R. W. Carl H. Claudy, who is the executive secretary.

Recently, with a situation confronting the Craft which is unparalleled, a plan was formulated by it to afford the armed forces of this country now in forts, camps, and cantonments the facilities of welfare service stations, staffed and paid for by the fraternity. A tentative but comprehensive organization was outlined, a report was published and mailed to each jurisdiction. It was also printed in full in *THE MASONIC CRAFTSMAN*. The scope

and purpose of the plan were discussed at the recent meeting of the Masonic Service Association in Washington and we understand there was some small opposition to it.

Why unanimity in this vital matter was not secured is difficult to understand. If there is to be a medium for welfare work connected with the American armed forces we know of no better agency to handle the Masonic phase of it than the Masonic Service Association. In fact there is no other. Official approval has through the army's Chief of Staff been warmly sympathetic to the outlined plan, and under the proposed set-up would undoubtedly be cooperative. Certainly the mothers of recruits and draftees would feel relieved to know that an agency existed which would make their loved ones more comfortable when off duty, in wholesome surroundings—away from the demoralizing influences inevitably accompanying military life.

The American Society for Social Hygiene certainly thinks that something ought to be done for the population of these camps, in view of the fact that during the World War a total of 7,004,818 days, equivalent to one year's absence from service of 22,300 men, was lost by the United States army and navy as a result of infection with syphilis or gonorrhea. Here's one compelling reason.

It is possible that objectors to the Masonic Service Association plan have one of their own. If so, we do not know it, but would very much like to, for this is not a time to sabotage constructive effort by non-constructive criticism and opposition. It is a time for unity and concentrated effort and not abstract generalizations. No small minority should be permitted to block it.

No one wishes to see repeated the humiliating spectacle of a vast brotherhood of three million men, with great resources, denied its desire to render a worthy national service. Yet if unified effort cannot be secured and the military authorities are again faced with the question of dealing with a variety of authorities they will in all probability treat the matter as they did in 1917, thereby putting into the hands of Freemasonry's enemies a knife with which to stab it to the heart. It would be ridiculous to open the door of a house to someone working to gain admittance to ransack it. As one eminent Mason expresses it: "It is sad enough to merely look on and see our fraternity strangled and disintegrated in Europe, but it is sadder still when loyal members of the fraternity here in our own country will let go of such a golden opportunity as it now has because of lack of unification in backing the Masonic Service Association's plan of national welfare work to the members of our fraternity who are now or may be later called to the army."

We repeat: If the opponents of this plan have a better one, by all means let them present it—but do it NOW. Later on it will be too late.

Otherwise they will lay themselves open to the charge of seeking to sabotage a worthy effort in behalf of this country's defenders and the welfare of their own brethren.

A Monthly Symposium

Could Freemasonry Survive a World Victory for Totalitarianism?

ALFRED H. MOORHOUSE
BOSTON

The Editors;
JOSEPH E. MORCOMBE
SAN FRANCISCO

WILLIAM C. RAPP
CHICAGO

EMPHATICALLY NO!

By ALFRED H. MOORHOUSE
Editor *Masonic Craftsman*, Boston

BASED on any present knowledge we have of the functioning of totalitarianism, it requires no straining of conscience to answer unequivocally and emphatically—NO!—to the question propounded in this symposium: Could Freemasonry Survive A World Victory for Totalitarianism?



The question and the answer, perhaps likewise, are supererogatory.

It is a known scientific fact that oil and water will not mix. Other scientific similes might be cited, but for our purpose and without the desire to inflict upon readers a lot of hypothetical hyperbole, we express it as our opinion that if totalitarianism becomes a world force, Freemasonry as an organized institution will die, destroyed by the totalitarian enemy who has made it a chief objective in his evil designs, for his purposes are the direct opposite to those of our ancient Craft.

Consider: Freemasonry is dedicated in the first and last analysis to the universal brotherhood of man under the Fatherhood of God. From all the evidence we have—and it is plenty—the aim of totalitarian power is to set up a super state in which favored individuals, chosen for their loyalty to "the cause" will dominate the lives and every act of all the people—rendering them slaves to it. It has not even been considered unreasonable to deify Herr Hitler as head of Nazi Germany. What supreme effrontery! Can anything be more preposterous than this attempt to endow with the attributes of a God a neurotic, misguided, mad individual who is now determinedly and wilfully making the burden of men's lives miserable beyond measure.

Freemasonry can no more live in a totalitarian world than a lamb among a pack of wolves.

In Germany, before the present party came to power, there were Grand Lodges and Lodges of Freemasons to whom service in behalf of their brethren was a sacred duty. They comprised intelligent men, of charity and good will. Where are they now? The lodges have been destroyed, their property confiscated—stolen!—they themselves in many cases become victims of the Gestapo in internment camps. This because they dared to call their souls their own.

The story of persecuted Freemasonry in Europe would fill volumes; and more is yet to come.

That the British and American pattern of Freema-

sonry survives is due to the heroic efforts of men who believe in the justice and sanctity of their cause. It will continue to survive just so long as their efforts are directed steadfastly toward the fulfillment of Masonic purposes.

While Charity is a cardinal virtue with Freemasons, it does not follow that in its practise we should permit ourselves to be beguiled into the belief that any totalitarian system, based as it is upon a purely materialistic philosophy, a philosophy which subordinates all else to the service of the so-called state and denies the existence of the Divine Architect of the Universe can compare with the ineffable ultimate satisfaction to be found in complete dedication to His service.

THE SPIRIT OF FREEMASONRY WILL SURVIVE

By WM. C. RAPP
Editor *Masonic Chronicle*, Chicago

OUR topic inquires as to the possibility of Freemasonry surviving a world victory of totalitarianism. World victory is an all-inclusive phrase, and necessarily embraces our own country, as well as all others.



Speaking only of the material side of the institution of Freemasonry—the palpable organization through which it seeks to accomplish its purposes, and which provides the opportunity for its members to assemble and practice the rites and ceremonies incident to the fraternity—the inevitable conclusion is that it cannot survive a world victory for totalitarianism.

The evidence offered by the experiences of the past is too obvious to permit us to harbor any delusions. If our country should through any process become subject to absolute and despotic authority, whether the dictator be an individual or a group, Freemasonry would be proscribed with little delay.

The reasons are not difficult to find. Dictators, we believe, are not unmindful of the beneficent accomplishments of the fraternity. Their hatred and opposition finds its source in the principles relating to the inalienable rights of men which are advocated by Freemasonry. A form of government founded and maintained without the consent and participation of the governed can survive only as long as it has the power and force to keep the people in subjugation. Dictatorships deny that individuals have primary rights which they must respect. Freemasonry teaches that men have certain rights which cannot be denied them. The theories of the two groups are diametrically opposed to each

other. Dictators will not, and cannot with safety to themselves, permit an organization to exist which teaches principles and ideals of human relationships which are in opposition to those upon which their power and authority are founded.

"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness." When Thomas Jefferson wrote these immortal words, he incorporated in the Declaration of Independence a bit of Masonic philosophy which is treason in the doctrine of all dictators. Would any despot permit such sentiments to be spread by an organization?

Freemasonry, however, is more than an organization. It is a philosophy of life resting upon profound truths which have existed throughout all ages. Dictators may crush an institution whose spirit inculcates a belief in the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of Man, but they cannot tear these principles out of the hearts of men. Neither can they prevail against coming generations of men who will be born with an instinctive desire for the enjoyment of those moral rights which should be the heritage of all men. In due time this spirit will assert itself anew and the power of brute force and injustice will wane before the light of reason, toleration and goodwill. Thus will Freemasonry survive a world victory for totalitarianism.

TRUTH IS IMMORTAL

By JOS. E. MORCOMBE

Editor Masonic World, San Francisco, California

"COULD Freemasonry Survive a World Victory for Totalitarianism?" This, our question for the month's discussion, might easily go beyond the world of realities and lead into a maze of unprofitable speculation. The subject has to do with factors that can not even be defined, much less be estimated, so that without due caution thought would be of doubtful value.



We might find a partial but unsatisfying answer to the problem by presenting the record of a Masonry suppressed in the various countries of Europe, and thence arguing that a like effect would follow a total victory for totalitarianism. But here, in the interest of clear thinking, we must distinguish between the terms "suppression" and "survival." One is the suspension of activities, with revival possible with removal of pressures. Survival, on the other hand, and in this connection, presents its antithesis of extinction. We have, therefore, to consider whether with the downfall of democracy, totalitarianism would be able to supplant the existing world order, bringing all the ideals and institutions of free life, including Freemasonry, to utter and irretrievable destruction.

The proposition as stated puts before us the eventuality of world revolution, more complete than any in the history of humanity. The civilization we have known, builded and improved through the centuries, would suffer wreck. The social, cultural and political agencies through which governments operate, would

be blotted out. In place of a kindly democracy, which until the present had kept pace with the rising intelligence of the peoples, the iron rule of dictatorship would be substituted, its rigid regimentation reaching to the inmost thought of the hapless multitudes. Would this, then, be a halting point, indefinite in period, in the upward march of a man to the heights of destiny? Or would it be a hopeless and final reversion to barbarism?

If this is truly the problem we face an impasse, beyond prophesy or conjecture. Yet we can ask a further question, implicit in our topic, whether the great principles and high idealisms upon which the democracies are builded, and to the perfection of which, as we have believed, the generations to come would labor to an increasing good, can survive a general wreckage of all our hopes?

Many months ago this writer received a letter from a devoted Mason, a native of the Reich. He wrote from a neutral country. The brother told of persecution and proscription, in words that brought the scene vividly before the mind. Then he added: "Organized Masonry in Germany is no more; but Masonry still holds in the hearts of German Masons." Perhaps this was the reply the propounder of our question had hoped to elicit. It represents the triumph of faith in the indestructibility of right and justice.

On such basis let us for the moment imagine, if we can, that the civilization that has been our boast had come to an end, with utter defeat of the democracies, and enthronement of the grotesque figure of the Austrian ex-corporal as the supreme arbiter of mankind. By his edicts, brutally enforced, all the agencies of the free life will have been destroyed, and the millions of the English-speaking race and their allies are held as slaves. What then remains?

It could still be insisted upon that the great fundamentals of civilization, which are of the vital teachings of the Craft, being based upon truths found valid by the experience of the generations, are by their very nature imperishable. They have survived the wreck of many governmental systems and of proud dynasties that had filled the world with their boastings. These are of the things most difficult to even suppress; they can live on and fructify in the most barren soil. "Truth crushed to earth will rise again; the eternal years of God are hers." Hitler and his miserable imitators are mortal; man's idealisms and even his dreams of coming good are immortal. The truth that is held in the keeping of Freemasonry are in substance and purpose the same as the guiding lights of a true democracy. They are inextinguishable, however fierce the storm. Suppressed and hidden for a time, even in such a scene as we have attempted to conjure from the realm of the impossible. In God's good time they would take on a new vigor, to a greater growth and higher benison.

All this deals with the unlikely, with what most of us would say was of the impossible; it is not of the realities of Time. Freedom, hardly gained, will not perish from the earth. The present critical period but brings a new phase of the everlasting struggle between darkness and light, good and evil. Ever the greater gain is made from the stresses of soul anguish. Thus are weakening errors made manifest and men rise purified in being from the depths of despair. "When half gods go, the true gods come!"

France in Travail

By MEYER MENDELSON

Honorary Member of the Supreme Council of the Scottish Rite in France

[Brother Meyer Mendelson, a refugee, left Paris the day before the German army marched in and joined the millions of refugees on their long trek to various parts of unoccupied France. He in part traveled 550 kilometers on foot to Marseilles, taking 16 days for the journey. He remained there until January of this year at which time, through the aid of friends over here, he succeeded in obtaining a visa as a visitor to the United States from the American Consul in that city. He has been in the United States about five weeks. He speaks no English and Bro. Herbert P. Hollnagel, to whom THE CRAFTSMAN is indebted for this text, acted as interpreter. The address was given before the Lafayette Lodge of Perfection, in Boston, Massachusetts, Friday evening, April 4, 1941.]

France, which I recently left is now living through one of, if not the most terrible and difficult hours in her existence. It is not my intention to speak of the reasons for this condition, they are so numerous that the particularity of any one would require too much time. For Masons, however, there are no accidental considerations in this status; for the individual, apparent, and separate happenings are only integral parts of the great whole of which the eternal work of the Grand Architect of the Universe is our duty.

Between the 15th of June and the 15th of July 1940 France saw two-thirds of her territory occupied by the Hitler army. On the 14th of June millions of her inhabitants who but yesterday were wealthy in this world's goods were in a moment unhappily and brutally made lost souls. Under continual bombardment they left their homes and everything that was dear to them only to be concerned in saving their lives. The picture was really terrible—sick children, young and old, the infirm and the crippled, mixed together in a long march to a place they knew not where; unable to take anything with them, they knew not what the morning would bring. In this mass of humanity there were many of our brethren for, where Hitler comes, Freemasonry must go. The Lodge apartments and their furnishings were confiscated; the brethren followed and hunted unto death. This is understandable only because the Hitler viewpoint does not recognize the Mason, whose creed is the predominance of the spirit over matter, and who cannot quietly witness the destruction of spirituality.

In the unoccupied parts of France the Vichy government under pressure from Hitler has also excluded Freemasonry. In October 1940 a law was passed causing all Lodges in that area to be closed and their property confiscated; furthermore, every government official was required to prove that he had no associations with Freemasonry. As a consequence of this latter requirement many of the Masters resigned their governmental posi-

tions rather than comply. A particular case in point was that of Assistant Minister of Justice Dumesnil Gramment who gave up his portfolio immediately, but who remained true to his Masonic ideals.

In occupied France all Lodge buildings were padlocked and confiscated, Hitler's army making a public display of all Lodge materials that it could find. Hitler exposed everything that his ruthless power could display; but the genuine spirit which holds forth in a Lodge that he could neither show much less contaminate. He who has not had the spirit of Masonry neither knows its beauty nor can he experience it; one cannot penetrate the mystery of the Craft if he is not a Mason, hence the powerlessness of Mr. Hitler.

The life of the brethren in France is indeed most difficult. Hunted like beasts, broken in spirit, they live from day to day in the dreadful fear that tomorrow they will be thrown on the street, their jobs taken from them and they be imprisoned. This is particularly true of Russian brethren, who suffer in this manner more abjectly. As strangers in the land they feel this atmosphere, and are continually praying that they will not be arrested and placed in concentration camps. Without any possible outlook for relief their one hope is in emigration, which now has become very difficult. In this free and beautiful America of yours it is difficult to picture such an abnormal and sorrowful condition as that through which brethren in France are passing. Nevertheless do not believe that Freemasonry has become submerged—Hitlerism cannot extinguish it. In secret circles, in the private security of locked homes, brethren meet and carry on their holy Masonic work. They spin further the tender and faithful web which we know as Freemasonry. In the name of these and in the spirit of brotherly love I bring you greetings—they are thinking definitely of you and I wish for just a moment to impress a thought upon your minds, to wit: Isolated from without, in a most serious condition of mind, oppressed and in the cold, without food, and in many cases without shelter or the bare necessities of life, these brethren stretch the menu of a day over a period of a week and still live up to their ideals; thus it is evident in the gigantic struggle between the two opposing forces that the Masons of Europe are in great danger. This does not mean that Masonry intended to undertake any concrete action. Masons who have the true knowledge in their desire to transform the world do not act by applying brute force, they endeavor to defeat the materialistic and to build up the spiritual.

I understood the immense value of this work when I was forced to leave Paris and to abandon everything; when I was on the roads, freed of all material blessings, I repeatedly found comfort as I do now, in the profound symbols of Masonry and in their secret meaning.

The Masonic Service Association of the United States of America

Report of the Executive Commission for the period February 1, 1940, to January 31, 1941

[Readers of THE MASONIC CRAFTSMAN will be interested in the report which follows. The Masonic Service Association is the only present agency representing a majority of the Grand Lodges of the United States which is in a position to act in a national emergency. Greater results could of course be secured were every Grand Jurisdiction members of the M.S.A. and it is hoped that in the near future that desideratum will be attained for as "in unity is strength" so it might well be that in any grave disaster "divided we (may) fall" naturally follows as a corollary. Certainly Masons should be giving careful thought to the unification of its elements and thus added strength to its influence.]—ED. CRAFTSMAN.

Brethren:

Herewith your executive commission reports upon its activities for the preceding twelve months, a period of unusual activity and, we believe, constructive results.

NECROLOGY

We grieve over the passing of many good men and true since our last meeting. Doubtless the chairman of this annual meeting will appoint a committee to record their virtues more at length, but six brethren whose smiles will lighten our way no more must be mentioned here:

Most Worshipful Brother Milo B. Price, Grand Master in Minnesota.

Most Worshipful Harry G. Noyes, Past Grand Master of New Hampshire.

Most Worshipful Frederick W. Hamilton, Honorary Past Grand Master and Grand Secretary of Massachusetts.

Most Worshipful Walter S. Fenton, Grand Master of Vermont.

Most Worshipful Benjamin Rogers Howell, Grand Master in Utah in 1925.

Most Worshipful Archie S. Harriman, Grand Master of Vermont in 1917-18.

MEETINGS

The executive commission met February 22 immediately following the annual meeting of this Association. A meeting of the executive committee was held in New York on May 10 to discuss plans for welfare work with the armed forces. The services of Major and Brother Charles S. Coulter, U.S.A. (Ret.) were secured. On July 8 the chairman and executive secretary held a conference in New York and again on July 17, the chairman, Major Coulter, and the executive secretary met in the home of the chairman, for further planning. December 7 the chairman and executive secretary held a conference in Hartford, Connecticut. During the year the executive commissions have been in constant touch by wire, telephone and letter with each other and with the executive secretary.

MEMBERSHIP

In spite of an enthusiastic recommendation by its Grand Master for continued membership the Grand Lodge of Mississippi withdrew at its annual communication. We are assured by many grand lodge leaders that this was a matter of finances only, and that rejoining shortly is their hope. Several grand masters have informed us of forthcoming recommendations that their grand lodges join in this fellowship.

We reemphasize the fact that this Association numbers in its membership a majority of the grand lodges of the nation.

FINANCES

Copies of the financial statement showing assets, receipts, disbursements, deposits, amounts on hand as of January 31, 1941, and the annual audit are available to delegates.

All expenditures are supported by vouchers.

A brother certified public accountant has certified to the correctness of the bank books, vouchers, cancelled checks, bank statements and books of the Association, and has signed the statement of itemized expenses and classifications of expenditures.

The Association has no liabilities except current office bills.

While certain amounts were added to the reserve fund from current funds during the year, it is less than last year because of withdrawal of funds to initiate the welfare department and employ Major Coulter.

A separate account for the welfare department has been kept; a certified public accountant audit of these figures is set forth in the finance report available to all delegates.

As a matter of record we reiterate that the budgeted amount of \$500 per year authorized by this commission in 1939 for a History of this Association to be published for the twenty-fifth anniversary in 1943, has been "earmarked" in the reserve fund.

RELIEF

After full discussion by wire and letter the executive commission authorized the following cable:

July 10, 1940

Grand Secretary White
Freemasons' Hall
Great Queen Street
London WC2 England

This Association of twenty-five Grand Lodges offers Mother Grand Lodge fraternal help to secure American homes for British Masonic refugee children. Cable your wishes our expense.

CLAUDY,

Secretary Masonic Service Association
Washington, D. C.

Reply paid up to \$10.00

London, July 12, 1940

Claudy, Secretary Masonic Service Association
Washington, D. C.

Gratefully acknowledge generous offer. Whole scheme temporarily suspended. Will communicate further when new arrangements announced.

WHITE.

A report of these cables was sent to all Grand Masters and Grand Secretaries, together with the query:

If in the future the Grand Lodge of England (and of Scotland and Ireland) asks for assistance in placing British refugee children, sons and daughters of Craftsmen, in American homes "for the duration", will you in your wisdom:

(a) ask your Lodges to circularize your brethren, laying the opportunity before them? (b) circularize your Craftsmen direct? (c) use this Association as a clearing house for acknowledgement, classification and forwarding such offers as may be made?

The replies indicated a hearty cooperation if needed. As all know no mass embarkation of British refugee children has been attempted, and, therefore no further steps have been taken, except to inform the United States Committee for the Care of European Children of Masonic willingness to help when necessary or possible.

The Refugee Relief Committee of the Swiss Grand Lodge Alpina, in sending a report of what it had done with the money contributed through this Association for the relief of distressed Austrian Masons, again applied to American grand lodges for funds to carry on their work for all refugee Masons in and near Switzerland. After this, they again appealed to this Association to attempt to raise more funds. Believing that a secondary appeal through us would injure, not help, the cause they had pleaded direct, we declined. In reply we received a courteous letter expressing regret that they had not followed a wiser course.

This second letter was so pitiful in its reaching out for help, even if blindly and with no knowledge of the inflexible rule of this Association never to interfere in any way with the internal activities of any Grand Lodge, or to duplicate relief efforts, that we could not entirely disregard it. Therefore, it was lithographed and sent to all grand masters, for their information, but without appeal.

We cannot report how much money as a result was sent by grand lodges directly; four hundred dollars from three grand lodges was received in checks in the office of the executive secretary and forwarded to the Grand Lodge Alpina as per its request through the Guaranty Trust Company of New York.

As we had issued no appeal and opened no account for Alpina refugee relief, we did not clear these checks through the Association's bank account; therefore they do not appear in the audit. The receipts for the \$400 sent through the Guaranty Trust Company are filed with our vouchers and receipts which, of course, are examined by the finance committee appointed by the chairman of this meeting.

A heavy storm visited New Jersey in September. We wired Most Worshipful Brother C. Lyle Hagaman, asking if fraternal help was needed. To this a courteous and appreciative negative was received.

WELFARE WORK

This commission established the Department of Welfare, with Major and Brother Charles S. Coulter, U.S.A. (Ret.) in charge, in May of 1940. Major Coulter began work—the Association equipping an extra office room for the purpose—in June.

It is obvious that no plans for Masonic Welfare work with the armed forces could possibly be put into effect or succeed without the enthusiastic cooperation of the army, navy, marine corps, etc. Therefore Major Coulter's first efforts were devoted to the formation of an advisory committee of brethren high in the services. The following distinguished Craftsmen and military leaders accepted positions on this committee: General Charles P. J. Summerall, Brig. Gen. Robert S. Abernethy, Maj. Gen. Randolph C. Berkeley, Maj. Gen. Washington Bowie, Jr., Capt. Willis W. Bradley, Jr., Maj. William Moseley Brown, Lieut. Gen. Stanley H. Ford, Maj. Gen. Amos A. Fries, Rear Adm. Harry G. Hamlet, Maj. Gen. James G. Harbord, Maj. Gen. Merritte W. Ireland, Maj. Gen. John A. Lejeune, Dr. Bolivar J. Lloyd, Maj. Gen. Charles H. Lyman, Maj. Gen. Hugh Matthews, Maj. Gen. Henry G. Mathewson, Maj. Gen. Frank Parker, Maj. Gen. Morris B. Payne, Maj. Gen. Walter C. Sweeney, Lieut. Col. George F. Unmacht, Maj. Gen. William H. Wilson, Rear Adm. Thomas Withers, Rear Adm. Clark H. Woodward.

On November 4 we issued a report showing the plans made for Welfare Work with the armed forces of the United States, to be put into effect when ordered by Grand Lodges. It is probable that all at this annual meeting have seen it, as reports were sent to all grand masters, deputy grand masters, grand secretaries, grand lodge officers, and all past grand masters and district deputy grand masters on our special list, a total of 1,317 copies. But to make sure, copies of the NEW ENGLAND MASONIC CRAFTSMAN of November, 1940, containing a reprint, are distributed at this annual meeting.

It is repeated here for the sake of emphasis that any brother present at this annual meeting, whether a delegate from a member grand jurisdiction, or a visitor from a non-member grand jurisdiction is not only invited but urged to take part in the discussion, to give to all the benefit of his ideas, that all may be fully informed as to Masonic sentiment regarding the questions: Shall Freemasonry initiate welfare work for the armed forces of the United States now, during training of draftees and the National Guard? Shall Freemasonry wait until a state of war exists before attempting any welfare work? Shall Freemasonry not engage in welfare work at all?

With the report were sent copies of the letter which this Association addressed to Secretary of War Stimson, and handed to him in person by a committee consisting of Brother and General Ireland, Most Worshipful J. Claude Keiper, Past Grand Master and Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia, and our executive secretary, and Mr. Stimson's reply. With these went a postal card addressed to us, containing three statements, with the request that the recipient's opinion be checked and the card mailed, signed or unsigned as he might desire.

The statement: "It is my opinion that Freemasonry should establish welfare centers now, for draftees and the National Guard during training." received 86 per

cent of the resulting vote. The statement: "It is my opinion that Freemasonry should wait until a state of war exists and then establish welfare centers for men in training," received 10 per cent of the vote. The statement: "It is my opinion that Freemasonry should not engage in welfare for the armed forces at any time," received 4 per cent of the vote.

The Report included resolutions passed by six grand lodges empowering the Grand Master to act *ad interim* in putting welfare plans into effect; also similar resolutions from the Grand Encampment of the United States, the Northern Supreme Council of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, and the National Sojourners. Since the report was published several more grand lodges have sent copies of similar resolutions.

Two matters in connection with the welfare program should be noted: at the direct if unofficial request of war department authorities to establish a Masonic center in Columbia, South Carolina, we sent Major Coulter to consult with the Masonic authorities of that State. Eager cooperation was offered by the grand master, past grand masters, grand secretary, and the military authorities at Camp Jackson.

The Grand Lodge of South Carolina contributed ten cents per capita (\$1,750.30) to open the welfare center in Columbia. Suitable quarters were secured from the city without cost. Various civic organizations donated services to paint and otherwise put it in proper condition. The several local Masonic bodies are lending hearty cooperation. We sent Brother Emory T. Osabal, a retired officer of marines, to Columbia to organize, staff and furnish the center, and it is expected that it will be opened with proper ceremonies on or immediately after February first.

It is emphasized here that the grand master and officers of the Grand Lodge of South Carolina, a charter member of this Association, requested us to open this center; the War Department requested us to open this center. With the assistance of local citizens, and under the direction and control of this Association, these requests were complied with. The Grand Lodge of South Carolina patriotically and unselfishly contributed the necessary funds without asking for any financial help. If the Association is instructed by this meeting to establish other centers and funds are contributed for the general plan from other grand lodges, South Carolina will share, as all grand lodges will share, in the benefits from the expenditures of such a general fund.

A grand master in a midwestern State asked for assistance in solving the welfare problem in his jurisdiction; the matter is still under discussion but will doubtless be settled by the annual meeting of the grand lodge in question. A grand master in an eastern state invited us to send representatives to a conference with his grand officers and past grand masters to inform them of our welfare work plans; this was done, apparently to the satisfaction of the officials concerned.

Your executive commission expresses no opinion either for the adoption of these welfare plans, or for their non-adoption. This Association was formed twenty-two years ago to be a voice grand lodges could command to speak, a hand grand lodges could move to action, a vehicle by which Freemasonry nationally could express its will and act, an agency which would be recognized by

the government as the instrument of a united Craft.

Therefore this commission authorized the making of comprehensive plans for welfare work, and employed Major and Brother Charles S. Coulter to formulate them and make the necessary arrangements for carrying them out. We record our satisfaction with his experience, ability and wise acts. His plans are sound; his arrangements are far-sighted; his preparations are complete.

It is for the grand lodges to say whether or not they will use these plans. If they are to be put into effect, this Association has the organization, the approval of the armed forces, the machinery. If they are not to be put into effect, we can lay them aside with the knowledge that we were prepared.

This commission records its gratitude to the distinguished brethren of the advisory committee whose advice, counsel and assistance has been of untold value; also its satisfaction with the hard work, wise planning and devoted service rendered by Major Coulter, whose twenty-three years of army experience, knowledge, wide acquaintance in military circles and enthusiasm are responsible for these welfare plans.

EDUCATION AND INFORMATION SERVICES

During the year the following have been issued and sent to Grand Masters, Deputy Grand Masters, Grand Secretaries, influential Masonic leaders, the Masonic Press:

Report—Of the Executive Commission for the year ending January 31, 1940. Of Major Coulter to this Commission, preliminary. Of the Welfare Work Plans.

Minutes—Of the twenty-first annual meeting.

Financial Statement—For the year ending January 31, 1940 (sent to Member Grand Jurisdictions only).

Digests—Ages of Initiates. Comparison Statistics. Masonic Principles.

Chart—Foreign Grand Lodges recognized by United States Grand Lodges.

Play—" . . . And Not Forsake Them."

Address—"In Whom Do You Put Your Trust?" delivered at the Twenty-first Annual Meeting by M. W. Hubert M. Poteat, Past Grand Master, North Carolina.

Short Talk Bulletins—Twelve issues.

Press Releases—Fraternal Relations (sent with Chart). " . . . And Not Forsake Them" (sent with Play).

Letters—To the Honorable Henry L. Stimson, Secretary of War. From the Honorable Henry L. Stimson. From Refugee Relief Committee, Swiss Grand Lodge Alpina.

Documents—Treasury Department ruling, Social Security. War Department, Civilian Agencies in Welfare Work.

CLEARING HOUSE SERVICE

This Association attempts to gather from all Grand Jurisdictions such programs, letters, documents, reports, papers, etc., as all may issue, in quantities of fifty, and, monthly, to distribute these to all grand masters, with a request that each in turn give them to such of his officers and committee chairmen as they may interest.

Valuable contributions came from Arizona, Chile, Colorado, Connecticut, District of Columbia, Idaho, Iowa, Louisiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Mississippi, New Jersey, North Dakota, Ohio, Texas, Utah, Virginia,

Washington, Wisconsin, Wyoming, as follows:

Proclamation, Grand Master, Idaho

Letter and Lodge program, Iowa

Masonic Home Endowment Fund, booklet, Connecticut

Spiritual Significance of Freemasonry, by Silas Shepherd, Wisconsin.

Grand Master's monthly letter, February, Texas

Grand Master's monthly letter, March, Texas

Origin of the Bible, Service Letter, Colorado

Seven Liberal Arts and Sciences, Service Letter, Colorado

More Light, February, Wisconsin

More Light, March, Wisconsin

Service Department Letter and Program, Massachusetts

Mutual Aid Principles in Freemasonry, Research Lodge

No. 281, Seattle, Washington

Manager's Report, Masonic Home, Connecticut

Modern Interpretation of Ritual, Wisconsin

Freemasonry and Youth, Massachusetts

Address of Grand Master Butler, Arizona

More Light, April, Wisconsin

Legend of Winding Stairs, Service Letter, Colorado

Rededication, Reconsecration and Benevolence Night, Wisconsin

Definition of Freemasonry, Grand Master Turnage, District of Columbia

Annual Address, Grand Master Imhoff, New Jersey

Order in Architecture, and

Holy Sts. John, Service Letter, Colorado

Veterans' Association booklet, District of Columbia

Ethical Significance of Freemasonry, Wisconsin

Clay Grounds, Five Minute Education paper, Connecticut

Letter to Masters, Iowa

Investigating Committee Guidance Bulletin, Idaho

Monthly program for April. Program for Founder's Night. Program for June, Iowa

Half Hour in the Lodge, booklet, Wisconsin

Service Department Letter, June, Massachusetts

Service Department Letter, July, Massachusetts

Freemasonry and America's Ism, Grand Master Nungesser, Louisiana

Signers of the Constitution of the United States, Iowa

Reference List for Masonic Speakers, Iowa

Masonic Relief—A Right or a Gratitude? Past Grand Master Meier, Washington

A Master of Life Membership, Irving E. Clark, Casper, Wyoming

The Trowel. The Third Step. Masonic Citizenship. Service Letters, Colorado

Proclamation, Wyoming

Service Department Letter, September, Massachusetts

Monthly Program Service Letters, September, October, Iowa

Independence Rock celebration, Wyoming

More Light, September, October, Wisconsin

Discussion of Declaration of Principles, North Dakota

More Light, November, Wisconsin

Masons of the Boise Basin in the Early Sixties, Idaho

Eight books on Masonic Education, Virginia

Service Department Letter, December, Massachusetts

Masonic Jurisprudence Guide, Maryland

Ecclesiastes XII, Service Letter, Colorado

More Light, December, Wisconsin

Gift Certificate, Mississippi

Grand Master's Letter to Masons, Mississippi

Man on the Side Lines, Grand Master Perry, Massachusetts

Service Letter and Special Events (booklet), Iowa

More Light, January, Wisconsin

Beginnings of Freemasonry in the Firelands of the Western Reserves, Ohio

Masonry and the Flag, Utah

The Bee Hive, Service Letter, Colorado

Many grand masters have written appreciative letters regarding this service. To extend it further, it is, of course, necessary that grand masters instruct their officers and committees to send us the necessary fifty copies, that all may receive documents which each Jurisdiction issues.

This Association gladly assumes the labor of transmission, postage, etc., in the knowledge that the better each Grand Jurisdiction is informed as to what its neighbor is doing, the more easily it may solve its own problems.

DIGESTS, CHARTS, PLAYS

It would be easy to extend this report beyond all reason by including the many kindly comments received on these efforts to add to Masonic Light.

In the interests of brevity we but summarize the character of these contributions:

Ages of Initiates created much comment, since it shows conclusively that the statement "young men are no longer attracted to Masonry" is wrong. The Digest would have been more complete could we have obtained statistics from all Grand Jurisdictions, but they are kept in but twenty-three. However, this is nearly fifty per cent of the number of grand lodges. It can hardly be doubted that what is true of the twenty-three, on the average is true of all forty-nine.

Comparison Statistics is a continuation and elaboration of "Visualized Statistics," previously issued. It sets forth the changes in statistics of Raisings, Affiliations, Reinstatements, Deaths, Dimissions and Suspensions, with the consequent losses and gains. A tabular statement shows the rise or fall of grand lodges in position in each of these particulars, thus affording an opportunity to all of comparison with their neighbors and with their own records. It is hoped to continue this as a yearly Digest.

Masonic Principles is devoted to setting forth the Declaration in Constitutions and other documents of those grand lodges which have them; listing those grand lodges which adopted the Declaration proposed in the Grand Masters' Conference of 1939; the changes in that declaration made by certain grand lodges prior to adoption; listing those grand lodges which consider that the Ancient Landmarks or the Old Charges, or both, contain their principles, etc. It brings together between covers information never before assembled.

The Chart of Foreign Grand Lodges recognized by United States Grand Lodges is a revised edition of the chart of a previous year; so many changes occurred that a new issue seemed imperative. It sets forth in visual form information not otherwise obtainable except by a search through the Proceedings of forty-nine grand lodges. This, also, it is hoped will become a yearly feature, unless recognitions become fairly static.

The Play " . . . And Not Forsake Them" was writ-

ten to satisfy a nation-wide demand for a dramatic vehicle which could be staged before a mixed audience, or put on by a lodge for its ladies. It is the only one of the seven plays issued by this Association which can be so used.

The previously issued six plays continue extremely popular. "He That Believeth" required its third edition, and "The Hearts of the Fathers" its second, during the year.

We note with pleasure the large number of casts putting on these plays all over the nation. Especial mention should be made of The Pioneer Players of Des Moines, Iowa, which group has appeared one hundred fifteen times in this Association's plays. Some of the plays have been translated into Spanish and produced in Cuba and in the Philippines.

SALES OF DIGESTS, PROGRAMS, PLAYS

All Digests, programs, plays, etc., are distributed to grand masters, deputy grand masters, grand secretaries, and a list of Masonic leaders. This material is also sent (to member grand jurisdictions) to such district deputy grand masters, leaders of Masonic groups, grand lodge officers, etc., as the grand master may designate. Member grand jurisdictions, of course, have the right to use, reprint, issue to their lodges, any and all material put out by the Association.

Many brethren want copies for their own use. The Association sells such copies *at cost*: sixty cents for a single copy, fifty cents each for several copies, plus postage. In this way the information reaches many who might not otherwise have it without an additional charge on the Association's funds, heavier than they would bear. More than five thousand Digests, plays, programs, etc., are in stock.

Our materials are largely used by non-member grand jurisdictions. This Association was conceived as one of *service*. No distinction is made between member and non-member grand jurisdictions when a question of service is involved; we have given relief to the one as readily as to the other, and our plays, programs, Digests, etc., are as freely at the disposal of the Craft in grand lodges which contribute nothing toward their production as in those member grand jurisdictions which make them possible. This commission expresses its continued pride in this fact.

SHORT TALK BULLETINS

Manuscripts of twelve Short Talk Bulletins were submitted to the chairman for approval, and published, during the year. More than seven thousand copies have been promptly mailed each month to all Lodges in Member Grand Jurisdictions, all grand masters, deputy masters, secretaries, and the Masonic press, and a long list of friends and subscribers.

The dates and titles are as follows: At Midnight, March; The "Why" of Initiation, April; The Freemasonry of Utopia, May; The "Small" Grand Lodge, June; My Part, July; Westward, Ho! August; Innovations, September; The Mystic Tie, October; Will Freemasonry Survive? November; The Unknown Builders, December; Masonic Welfare Work, January. Master, February.

Back numbers are in continual demand, and many appreciative letters from Masters and others are received

as to the use and value of these efforts at supplying "more light." It is a matter of great pride to this commission that the eighteen volumes of these papers, 216 brief essays, each on a different Masonic subject, constitute a speakers' library without a peer.

The largest contributor to the Masonic press, these Short Talk Bulletins, or other material sent out by the Association, have been reprinted in thirty-three Masonic journals.

SPECIAL SERVICES

A complete catalog of the multitudinous services rendered would be wearisome. Answering all sorts of questions on Masonic law, history, names, dates, places; helping lodges secure speakers, books, establish a library; provide entertainment of a Masonic nature; sending out educational programs and literature; reviewing members' papers; suggesting the right Masonic lawyer, doctor, dentist, or other specialist; helping the jobless to jobs, etc., etc., results in a large correspondence, all of which is either answered or acknowledged (if the request cannot be answered immediately) on the day it is received.

A few services may be mentioned in detail. A Grand Master desiring a revision of his Code in certain particulars asked for assistance; the references required were compiled and these, together with duplicate copies of a number of other Codes, were sent to him.

A grand master consulted us and we did what we could in a matter involving a difference of opinion between two Grand Jurisdictions; the matter is still pending but appears to be on the road to a settlement satisfactory to both sides.

The Association's seven plays were bound in buckram (a limited edition) and sold at cost to Masonic libraries.

Lists of Grand Masters and Grand Secretaries have been supplied to research workers who desired to consult Masonic authorities in each State on their particular interests. Great care is exercised in giving out such lists that they be not used for commercial purposes.

VISITS

This Commission notes with pleasure the reaction to the visits of the Executive Secretary to Grand Lodges, and to special gatherings of Masons. Inasmuch as our Constitution provides that when possible we shall supply Masonic education and enlightenment through Masonic visitation, such activities not only carry out the letter of the law but produce fraternal contacts of great benefit both to the Jurisdictions visited and to us. During the year the Executive Secretary visited twelve grand lodges and made addresses to large meetings of Masons in three other jurisdictions. These activities we especially commend.

CONCLUSION

We have purposely kept this Report as short as is consistent with clarity, that all available time may be devoted to the pressing subject of Masonic Welfare work. But we cannot close it without praise for the labors of the Executive Secretary, his devotion to duty and his ceaseless activity in behalf of this Association and the Fraternity. With our gratitude we couple hearty commendation for his labors.

CARL H. CLAUDY, Executive Secretary.



APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

Brig. Gen. Mordecai Gist, officer in the American Revolution and Grand Master of South Carolina (1790-91), was made a Master Mason in Lodge No. 16, Baltimore, Md., April 25, 1775.

William Preston, author of *Illustrations of Masonry* and the Prestonian Lectures, died in London, Eng., April 1, 1818. He became a Mason in 1762 and was Master of Antiquity Lodge No. 1, London, in 1774.

Benjamin Franklin Tracy, Secretary of the Navy under President Harrison (1889) and member of Friendship Lodge No. 153, Owego, N.Y., was born at that place April 26, 1830.

Col. Aaron Ogden, officer in the Revolutionary War, U. S. Senator from New Jersey, and Governor of that state, (1812), died at Jersey City, N.J., April 19, 1939.

David Daggett, U. S. Senator from Connecticut, Judge of the State Supreme Court, and Deputy Grand Master (1798-1810), died at New Haven, Conn., April 12, 1851.

Francis S. King, 33d, Grand Master of Wyoming (1907) and Active Member in that state of the Supreme Council, 33d, Southern Jurisdiction, U.S.A., was born at Douglas, Isle of Man, England, on April 6, 1867.

Brig. Gen. Thomas H. Benton, Grand Master of Iowa (1860-63), who is credited with saving the library and home of Gen. Albert Pike during the Civil War by making his headquarters there, died at St. Louis, Mo., April 10, 1879.

Charles B. Aycock, Governor of North Carolina (1901-05) and Grand Orator of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina, whose statue was placed in Statuary Hall of the Nation's Capital in 1932, was raised in Wayne Lodge No. 112, Goldsboro, N.C., April 4, 1892.

Col. Perry M. Hoisington, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge and Grand Commander of Knights Templar of Kansas, received the 32d, Scottish Rite, at Wichita, Kans., April 18, 1901.

Augustus Thomas, 33d, dean of American playwrights at time of his death, became a Scottish Rite Mason in New York City, April 26, 1907.

George W. Glick, 8th Governor of Kansas (1883-85), whose statue is in Statuary Hall in the U.S. Capitol, Washington, D.C., died April 13, 1911. He was a member of the York Rite.

LIVING BRETHREN

J. Thomas Heflin, U. S. Senator from Alabama (1920-31), was born at Louisa, Afla., April 9, 1869, and received the 32d, Scottish Rite, at Washington, D.C., April 20, 1923.

Jonathan M. Davis, Governor of Kansas (1923-25) and a member of the Scottish Rite at Fort Scott, Kans., was born in Franklin Township, Kans., April 26, 1871.

Emmett D. Tumlin, 33d, Deputy in West Virginia of the Supreme Council, 33d, Southern Jurisdiction, was born at Ravenswood, W. Va., April 20, 1872, and received the 32d, Scottish Rite, at Wheeling, W. Va., April 16, 1908.

John W. Davis, member of the Scottish Rite at Wheeling, W. Va., was born at Clarksburg, W. Va., April 13, 1873. In 1918, he was appointed Ambassador to Great Britain and was the first Mason not a Britisher to be appointed Senior Grand Warden of the Grand Lodge of England.

David W. Davis, Governor of Idaho (1919-23) and a Scottish Rite Mason of Boise, Idaho, was born in Wales, April 23, 1873.

Earle B. Mayfield, U. S. Senator from Texas (1923-29) and a member of the Scottish Rite at Dallas, was born at Overton, Texas, April 12, 1881.

Dr. Winfred Overholser, noted psychiatrist and superintendent of St. Elizabeth's Hospital, Washington, D. C., was born at Worcester, Mass., April 21, 1892. He is a member of the Scottish Rite at Washington, D.C.

Alexander B. Steuart, 33d, former Deputy in Southern Florida of the Supreme Council, 33d, Southern Jurisdiction, received the 32d, Scottish Rite, at Tampa, Fla., April 10, 1915.

Charles Cyrus Coombs, 33d, Deputy in the District of Columbia of the Supreme Council, 33d, Southern Jurisdiction, received the 32d, Scottish Rite, at Washington, D.C., April 15, 1921.

Everett W. Frazar, Deputy in Japan of the Supreme Council, 33d, Southern Jurisdiction, received the 33d Honorary, April 7, 1924.

Earl of Harewood, 33d, Pro Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of England, was appointed Senior Grand Warden of that Grand Lodge, in April, 1925.

Charles Nelson, 33d, Deputy in Tennessee of the Supreme Council, 33d, Southern Jurisdiction, received the 32d, Scottish Rite, Nashville, Tenn., April 17, 1925.

CORRECTION

In the list of April Masonic Anniversaries published in the March issue, it was stated that John W. Davis, 32d and Knight Commander of the Court of Honour, was the first non-British subject to be appointed Senior Grand Warden of the United Grand Lodge of England. This honorary appointment was made in 1918. It has come to our attention that Viscount Tadasu Hayashi, Ambassador from Japan to Great Britain, was similarly honored in 1904.

APPRECIATION

GRAND LODGE OF VERMONT
Middlebury, Vermont
April 5, 1941.

Mr. Alfred H. Moorhouse,
27 Beach St., Boston, Mass.

Dear Brother Moorhouse:—

Could you supply 130 copies of your March, 1941, issue of THE MASONIC CRAFTSMAN? . . .

I would like to send one to each lodge in Vermont and the District Deputies, with the request that the article, "The Annihilation of Freemasonry" be read at the next communication of the Lodge and with the further request that each Lodge subscribe for the Magazine so as to make it available for the entire membership. *This number alone is well worth the cost of subscription.*

An early reply will be appreciated.

Fraternally yours,
P. CONANT VOTER,
Acting Grand Master.

P. G. M.'s CONFER DEGREE UPON SONS

Two past grand masters of the Grand Lodge of Arkansas conferred the Entered Apprentice degree upon their sons at a meeting of Western Star Lodge No. 2, F. & A.M., Little Rock, Ark., on March 13, 1941.

Claude A. Rankin, 32d, Grand Master in 1933, presided in the initiation of his only son, Claude A. Rankin, Jr., and Woodlief A. Thomas, 32d and Knight Commander of the Court of Honour, presided when his son, Woodlief A. Thomas, Jr., received the degree. Mr. Thomas wore the apron he had used when Master of El Dorado (Ark.) Lodge No. 13 in 1924, and when he was Grand Master ten years later.

Woodlief Thomas, Jr., received the work on his twenty-first birth anniversary.

sary, special dispensation having been granted so that the lodge could receive and act upon his petition in advance.

Officers and past officers of the Grand Lodge of Arkansas filled the other working stations during the ceremonies. Included were Grand Master R. Luther Wood, 32d; Deputy Grand Master Willard D. Billingsley, 33d; Grand Senior Warden Ray Boyle, 32d; Grand Treasurer W. A. Hicks, 32d; Past Grand Masters C. Eugene Smith, 33d, and F. W. Harris, and Custodians Harry H. Schmuck, 32d, and George M. Weathersbee, 32d.

INSURANCE EXECUTIVE RETIRES

Henry S. Nollen, 33d, of Des Moines, for eighteen years president of the Equitable Life Insurance Company of Iowa, was recently retired from the presidency after twenty-eight years association with the organization. He remains a member of the Board of Directors, and is also preparing a history of the company.

Mr. Nollen has long been active in Masonic affairs. He is at present Sovereign of St. Bartholomew Conclave No. 37, Red Cross of Constantine, in Des Moines, and chairman of the Masonic Service Committee of the Grand Lodge of Iowa.

The Service Committee is in charge of the 10th annual "Simultaneous Meetings" sponsored each year by the Grand Lodge of Iowa. "Rededication" is the theme for this year's meeting on April 14th. A feature in each lodge will be the reading of an article written by Mr. Nollen especially for the occasion.

WILLS AND BEQUESTS

FORTUNE FOR A SCHOOL.—Colonel William John Daniell Dundee, of Bourne-mouth, who designed and built the Khyber Pass defences, has left £37,139. He bequeathed £1,000, his residence and furniture to his wife, and the residue to her for life and then to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, Bushey, Herts. —*Freemason's Chronicle* (England).

THIRTY-SIX MASONIC

GOVERNORS

Of the 48 States of the Union, 36 of them have Masonic Governors. They are as follows: Alabama, Arkansas, Arizona, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Iowa, Illinois, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, New Jersey, New Mexico, North Carolina, North Dakota, Nebraska, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, South Dakota, Texas, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, and Wyoming.

Those not having a Mason for its Governor are as follows: California, Indiana, Maryland, Michigan, Nevada, New Hampshire, New York, Oregon, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Utah, and Vermont.

NEW ZEALAND MASONRY

Besides keeping up its regular Masonic charities, the Grand Lodge of New Zealand has offered 10,000 pounds as a non-interest bearing loan to the British Government and given 5,000 pounds to the National Patriotic and Sick and Wounded Funds. Thus New Zealand Masons join with others in the Dominions to promote the Empire's war against Hitlerism.

The Grand Lodge of New Zealand consists of 304 active lodges with a membership of slightly more than 26,000 Masons. The Duke of Connaught, Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of England, is Patron and Charles J. Ronaldson is Grand Master of the New Zealand Grand Lodge.

MONTICELLO

In his February report Mt. Stuart Gibbons, president of the Thomas Jefferson Memorial Foundation, states that the mortgage on Monticello, historic home of the third President of the United States has been paid.

During the past eighteen years the Foundation has raised \$500,000, which included the purchase price of the house, its furniture, relics and 650 acres of land.

The interior and exterior of the old manse, with the sympathetic touch of Fisker Kimball, learned in Jeffersonian architecture and landscaping, has been restored.

With the last cent of the mortgage on Monticello paid off the Foundation will have, in a few years, restored all the buildings to the condition that obtained when Jefferson lived there. During 1940 more than 100,000 visitors paid an admission fee. This fee, in years past, has been the principal source of revenue in lifting the mortgage.

The 200th anniversary of Jefferson's birth will be commemorated in 1943.

BISHOP ADNA WRIGHT

LEONARD HONORED

The Rev. Adna Wright Leonard, 33d, newly assigned Methodist Bishop to the Washington, D.C., area, was honored at a reception and banquet sponsored by Masons of the District of Columbia, on March 10, 1941. Keynote of the affair was toleration, and it was pointed out that within the Craft men of all beliefs could peacefully gather.

Arthur C. Moses, 32d, was host on this occasion and presided at the banquet. Bishop Leonard was introduced by the Grand Commander of the Supreme Council, 33d, Southern Jurisdiction. Dr. John C. Palmer, 33d, Presbyterian minister, said grace; thanks were given by Rabbi Harry Silverstone, and the Rt. Rev. James E. Freeman, 33d, Episcopal Bishop of Washington, pronounced benediction.

Bishop Leonard received the Scottish Rite Degrees in 1920; was made a Knight

Commander of the Court of Honour in 1923, and received the 33rd Degree Honorary in 1927. At that time he was Bishop in Buffalo, N.Y., and had been Bishop both in California and the State of Washington. He came to Washington, D.C., from Pittsburgh, Pa.

The committee on arrangements consisted of J. Claude Keiper, 33d, Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia; W. D. Jamieson, 33d, former member of Congress; Col. Augustus R. Brindley, 32d, and Grand Commander John H. Cowles.

DUTCH OPPOSITION CONTINUES

"Fifteen Netherlanders Die Before Firing Squad" is the latest headline to evolve from Heinrich Himmler's Gestapo activities in conquered Holland. The fifteen were convicted of terrorism, espionage, and sabotage in The Hague.

So effective, German officials thought, was the resulting discipline, that the record of arrests and sentences was made public. Nazis feel that Holland, while still under the spell of the bloody but workmanlike Gestapo, can be kept peaceful and shy of future plotting against the State through a form of concentration-camp *Kultur*. Making public German court procedure, people of Holland are hereby warned.

Ruling Nazis forget, though, that by making public the conviction of those Hollanders who have been playing the British game, the Nazis admit such sabotage exists. While the Nazis themselves admit the Hollanders have been making trouble, Britain can take hope that increased underground help in the Low Countries will take root where the Gestapo cannot excavate.

FLAG PRESENTED

Last December, the Scottish Rite Bodies of Hattiesburg, Miss., staged their fifty-second reunion, at which fifty-eight officers and enlisted men from Camp Shelby received the Scottish Rite degrees. The class, which took the name "Maj. Gen. Benson W. Hough, 33d, Memorial Class," recently presented the Hattiesburg Scottish Rite Bodies with an Ohio State flag, along with the coats of arms of all the regiments represented in the class.

On the same day a check for \$500 was received by Hattiesburg (Miss.) Lodge No. 397 from the Grand Lodge of Ohio in appreciation for services rendered by Hattiesburg Masons to Ohio members of the Craft at Camp Shelby.

Most of the men of the Scottish Rite class were from the 37th (Ohio) Division, of which General Hough was formerly the commanding officer. He is also well remembered as head of the 166th Infantry of the Rainbow Division, which saw active service in France during the World War. The presentation was by Brig. Gen. William H. Marlin, 32d, presi-

dent of the class. He said that since most of the members of this class were originally from Ohio, the flag of that state would make a fitting present to the Hattiesburg Bodies and hoped that it would find a place on the walls of the Scottish Rite Temple beside the flag of Mississippi. He urged that the flag be considered a trophy of peace and that it should indicate the mutual support which the people of these two states will always give each other in times of necessity.

FATHER AND FOUR SONS

For the first time in the 134-year history of Union Masonic Lodge No. 108, Towanda, Pa., a father and four sons are active members at the same time. This record was set on January 22, 1941, when Frank, Robert and Albert Remsnyder, sons of Seeley T. Remsnyder, Past Master and Secretary of the Lodge, were initiated. An older son, Jack, was already a member of the lodge.

Past Master Remsnyder conferred the degree upon two of his sons, while the other son received the degree from his brother, Jack Remsnyder, Junior Warden of the Lodge.

100 YEAR OLD MASON

One of the oldest Masons passed happily into his 101st year on February 18, 1941, when Captain Alden Howell, member of Waynesville Lodge, North Carolina, celebrated his 100th anniversary in California with a score of friends and relatives. Captain Howell received a telegram from the Master saying that the lodge had held a special meeting in his honor the night of his birthday. He is believed to be the oldest living Mason in California. A former Confederate, Captain Howell remembers Stonewall Jackson and says he was only twenty feet from him when he was killed.

GIFT

The Masonic and Eastern Star Home at Washington, D.C., received a gift of \$2,500 under the terms of the will of Ralph L. Hall, recently filed in the District of Columbia. Mr. Hall, a pioneer Washington real estate man, died on February 18, 1941.

NORWEGIAN RESTRICTIONS

News via Stockholm, Sweden, reveals that approximately 1,000,000 Norwegians are now living under conditions approaching that of a concentration camp. This figure comprises more than one-third of the population of Norway. The Germans had hardly occupied that country when 700,000 persons were isolated from the rest of their countrymen in the region of the Norwegian-Swedish frontier.

Because of sabotage against German military establishments, the German military authorities recently issued a decree

fining the population of western Oppland Province, which included the City of Hamar, 100,000 kroner, established an 8 p.m. curfew, and forbade gatherings on streets and in private homes. In addition to these restrictions on the liberties of the people, it was announced in the press that any Norwegian caught at sabotage would be shot on sight.

As a result of persistent anti-Quisling demonstrations, German authorities put 100,000 persons under strict control in the regions of Bergen and Hordaland. Bearing these things in mind, it is not to be wondered that Quisling has suppressed Freemasonry in Norway, for the Craft has always stood for freedom and fair play and resisted every attempt to subjugate free men and suppress free governments.

It is stated that the creation of a Nazi regiment in Norway is now being welcomed by some patriotic Norwegians, though at first they were enraged at the thought of such a thing. They reason that a Nazi regiment of Norwegians will be a "good riddance, since only worthless Norwegians will join." Furthermore, the opinion prevails that it will give Quisling and his chief lieutenants an opportunity to leave their native land without loss of face.

On the other hand, the exiled Norwegian Government has denounced the formation of a Norwegian Nazi regiment in a broadcast from London. The denunciation has been further circulated by the thousands through leaflets, which declare that all those who join the regiment will be regarded as traitors and eventually subject to the death penalty.

Patriots' remarks against Major Quisling and the regiment appeared nightly in charcoal on the snow of Oslo streets.

FRANCO CONSCRIPTS YOUTH

It appears that Spanish youth will no longer have a choice in democratically acquiring an education. Generalissimo Francisco Franco has directed that Spain's youth will become a militant arm of the Falangists, the Spanish order of Fascist sympathy. By an official decree, General Franco will regiment and train young Spain until it reaches the age to enter the army or marry. Students between 7 to 17 years of age automatically become members in the "new order."

Protestantism is almost completely banned in Spain, and it may be assumed that Spanish youth will receive its education under the guidance of Roman Catholic nuns and clerics.

TEMPLARY

New York, N.Y., Apr. 8, 1941.

To the Editor:

This concerns the editorial "Templary" which appeared in the February issue of THE CRAFTSMAN.

The first and principal objective of the

Templar Order is the preservation of Christianity. The second, and very practical, objective is "To provide educational advantages for the youth of our beloved country."

Space does not allow an elaboration of the first. The daily newspapers do that! Your readers might be interested in some statistics on the second.

Total received from assessments	\$3,998,001.64
Received from donations	60,791.38
Total	\$4,058,793.02
Total amount loaned to students	\$7,204,587.83
Total number of loans	32,329
Loans charged off as uncollectible	296
Amount uncollectible (all causes)	\$ 64,711.29
% loss to loans	.903

The above figures through the year 1939.

Templary is not a charitable organization in the same sense as the Blue Lodge. Its purposes are largely idealistic as are those of the Church. As the influence of the Christian Church has waned (witness the complete collapse in Europe) so has that of all institutions formed and operated for the moral good of the people.

Is not this the time for all Masons to think and speak in the affirmative? A negative, defeatist attitude is still working against the Order, and if continued will aid in the decay and eventual destruction of that which we members feel has a proper place in the life of every thinking man.

Courteously yours,

JOSEPH CAMERON DUNN.

[The above figures are for the whole U. S. The Grand Commandery of Massachusetts and Rhode Island has received from the inception of the Educational Foundation in 1922 \$266,896.15.]

The statement that the Christian Church in Europe is in "complete collapse" is an exaggeration.

Joseph Cameron Dunn is Grand Captain General of the Grand Commandery, Knights Templar of the State of New York.]—ED. CRAFTSMAN.

QUEBEC AND ONTARIO

An item of passing interest recently appeared in the Scottish Rite News Bureau press release, which gives some striking comparisons in the internal economy, management and accomplishments of the Provinces of Quebec and Ontario. While these political subdivisions of our northern neighbor are very similar in size and per capita wealth, and their divisions between farming and industry are almost identical, there are many things in regard to which there are marked differences.

It is well known that Quebec is dominantly Roman Catholic, whereas On-

tario is as dominantly Protestant. Quebec is said to be the last place in the civilized world where the Roman Catholic Church exercises complete control over the schools. Trade unions, farmers' organizations, radio, cinema, libraries are other activities closely guarded by the church.

It is estimated that the church holdings in Quebec exceed half a billion dollars, with a yearly income in excess of fifty million dollars. In this respect the Protestant churches of Ontario run a very poor second. However, in the field of education Ontario spent \$38,000,000 in 1936, Quebec less than \$20,000,000. Teachers' salaries ran from \$740 to \$2,249 in Ontario, while Quebec paid an average salary of \$460 a year. Quebec's percentage of illiteracy in 1931 was twice as large as that of Ontario.

In 1935 there were 460 public libraries in Ontario, in Quebec there were 26. The circulation of books in 1937 was estimated at almost 13,000,000 in Ontario and 672,000 in Quebec.

Infant mortality per 1,000 population in Quebec was 100—in Ontario only 55. Quebec's death rate from tuberculosis per 100,000 was 88.3 to 35.5 for Ontario, while the death rate from contagious diseases per 100,000 was 93.5 to 52.7. The figures are for 1937.

All of which would seem to indicate that the success achieved by religious creeds in temporal matters is nothing to boast of.—*Masonic Chronicler*.

SCOTTISH RITE IN PUERTO RICO

San Juan, Puerto Rico, Scottish Rite Masons honored Dr. W. F. Lippitt, 33d, Deputy in Puerto Rico for the Supreme Council, 33d, A.&A.S.R., Southern Jurisdiction, U.S.A., and Dr. Ramon Fournier, 33d, Master of Kadosh, at a banquet and reception of candidates for the degrees in San Juan on March 16, 1941. Guy J. Swope, 32d, Governor of Puerto Rico, was an honored guest.

Masons from other Masonic Bodies attended, and there was a large attendance of Scottish Rite Masons.

GRAND LODGE OF ALBERTA

The Grand Lodge of Alberta showed its complete support of the British empire in its fight to preserve freedom from annihilation by the axis powers by voting, at its last communication, to donate \$5,000 cash to the minister of finance of the Dominion of Canada to be used for war supplies or equipment. At the same time, the grand lodge sent \$2,500 to the United Grand Lodge of England to help support the hospitals operated by the English Masonic body and for the relief of wounded soldiers.

The Alberta grand lodge also took a strong stand on the question of publishing matter that revealed or hinted at Masonic secrets—secrets that could be of no

interest to the general public yet would rob the Craft of some of the appealing mystery that surrounds it. The following resolution was adopted condemning the practice: "No lodge or brother shall publish or circulate, or cause to be published or circulated, any written or printed book, pamphlet, document or letter purporting, directly or indirectly, to bear the sanction or approval of the grand lodge unless such sanction or approval has, in fact, been regularly granted by the grand master in writing and duly attested by the grand secretary; nor shall any lodge or brother publish, circulate, or cause to be published or circulated, any written or printed book, pamphlet, document or letter relating to any matter within the exclusive jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Alberta, A.F.&A.M."

STATUES OF EARLY MASONS

The memories of DeWitt Clinton, pioneer locomotive inventor and a former Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of New York, and Alexander Hamilton, first Secretary of the Treasury under George Washington, were honored on January 14, 1941, with the unveiling of statues of these two early American leaders by the Museum of the City of New York. Full length and slightly over life size, the two statues, cast in nickel bronze, were sculptured by Adolph Alexander Weinman.

They were placed in white marble niches of the facades of the two wings of the Museum facing Fifth Avenue. Mayor Fiorello H. LaGuardia of New York City was the principal speaker at the ceremonies.

DeWitt Clinton had a long and distinguished Masonic career. Made a Master Mason in Holland Lodge No. 16, New York City, in 1790, he became Master of his lodge in 1794 and was elected Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of New York in 1806. He held this position until 1819. He received the thirty-third degree from the Supreme Council, 33d, A.&A.S.R., Northern Masonic Jurisdiction, U.S.A., and was the first Grand Master of the Grand Encampment, Knights Templar, U.S.A., serving three terms from 1816 to 1828.

The public career of DeWitt Clinton was equally distinguished. He was elected U.S. Senator from New York, at the age of 33 years, in 1802, and was Governor of the State from 1817 to 1821, and again from 1825 to his death in 1828. He was Mayor of New York City from 1803 to 1807, and again in 1810, 1811, 1813 and 1814.

Alexander Hamilton was believed to have been a Mason, and it is known that he attended a celebration of American Union Military Lodge at Morristown, N.J., on December 27, 1779. A further, though unverified, report states that he visited Williamsburg (Va.) Lodge No.

6 with Generals Washington, Lafayette and Knox. A close friend of most of the distinguished early Masons who took the lead in the Revolutionary War and in launching the Republic during those precarious and troubled times, Hamilton was Aide-de-Camp to General Washington during the last four years of the war and was picked by the first President, himself a Mason, as Secretary of the Treasury when he formed his first cabinet.

DOMINICAN MASON HONORED

A novel by H. H. Lopez Penha, 33d, Grand Commander of the Supreme Council, 33d, of the Dominican Republic, was recently selected to represent that country in the Contest of Latin American Unpublished Novels, being sponsored by Publishers Farrar and Rinehart and *Red Book Magazine* of New York City, and the publishing firm of Nicholson and Watson of London. Entitled *Renacimiento* (Renaissance), the novel was sent to New York to be judged in competition with novels representing the other Latin American Republics.

Grand Commander Lopez Penha is well known as an author, having had two novels published previous to this time, and having written articles and short stories for newspapers and magazines for many years.

Interest in the contest has been great throughout the Latin American countries. Final selection of the winning novel will be made in New York by an International Jury composed of John Dos Pasos, Blair Niles and Ernesto Montenegro.

OLD CANADIAN LODGE

St. Andrew's Lodge No. 16, A.F.&A.M., of Toronto, Canada, which has been active for 118 years, honored its veteran members at a recent meeting. George McGill, Past Master, received and extended a welcome to the brethren in three groups according to their number of years' standing in the lodge. The first group were members from twenty-five to thirty-nine years; the second, forty to forty-nine years, and the third over fifty years. They were then introduced to the lodge by Arthur Trebilcock.

Included in the oldest group were Joseph B. Watson, aged ninety-one, fifty-eight years a member of the lodge; L. H. Luke, aged eighty, fifty-seven years; John F. Logan, aged eighty-three, fifty-five years; John Pearson, aged seventy-six, fifty-four years, and Charles E. Edmonds, aged seventy-nine, fifty-three years.

At the dinner preceding the meeting of the lodge, Alex Leitch proposed the toast to the Grand Lodge, to which Past Grand Master W. J. Dunlop responded. N. S. Robertson then proposed the toast "to the Old Members." Emerson Coatsworth responded for the group members of twenty-nine to thirty-nine years' standing; William Wallace for the group forty to forty-nine years, and Charles Edmonds for the group of fifty years and over.

standing; William Wallace for the group forty to forty-nine years, and Charles Edmonds for the group of fifty years and over.

Tribute was paid to the late Past Grand Master John Ross Robertson and the late Sir William Gage by Charles E. Edmonds. He spoke of the latter as having established the Sanatorium for consumptives, and St. Andrews Lodge as having made one of the first contributions to that undertaking.

Other features of the evening included the presentation of an old copper gong to the lodge, used to call the brethren to refreshment in the early days of the town of York. It was last used fifty years ago by John Pritchard, the lodge caterer.

The Master Masonic degree was conferred by the oldest members present, who occupied the several stations of the lodge.

AN OCCASIONAL LODGE OF THE 56TH C. A. C.

When the National Guard of New London, Conn., was called to active duty in World War I, its commanding officer, Maj. Morris B. Payne, was then Master of Union Lodge No. 31, New London, and many members of the battalion were also members of the Craft. With such a strong Masonic influence, the Masons in the battalion petitioned the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Connecticut for a charter for a Military Lodge.

The first request was refused on the grounds that the Grand Master was soon to leave office and did not want to commit the Grand Lodge at the close of his term. A second petition was refused by the next Grand Master, principally because he did not wish to infringe upon the jurisdiction of any other Grand Lodge, and such a Military Lodge was certain to meet outside of Connecticut.

Finally, however, with a number of candidates awaiting the degrees, the Grand Master empowered Major Payne to hold an Occasional Lodge whenever he found it possible. Since the battalion sailed for France soon afterwards, it was found impracticable to assemble the lodge until August, 1918.

The three degrees were given to six of the waiting nine candidates, the other three having been transferred before the meetings, and the third degree to another. The work took place in Charly (Aisne) on August 8th, 9th and 11th. About twenty-five states were represented at the meetings.

Within forty-eight hours after the final meeting, the offensive against the Oise River line, held by the Germans, was under way, and the 56th Coast Artillery Corps, which included Major Payne's command, was in the fight.

Following the war, Major Payne became Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Connecticut. He also advanced in

military rank, and is now Major General Payne in command of the 43rd Division, made up of National Guard troops from Connecticut, Rhode Island, Vermont and Maine. The command is unique in that five Past Grand Masters hold commissions in it.

A.A.S.R.—S.M.J.

Rufus O. Renfrew, 33d, Active Member in Oklahoma of the Supreme Council, 33d, Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, Southern Jurisdiction, U.S.A., reports that both Conclaves of the Order of the Red Cross of Constantine located in that state have their maximum number of thirty-three members and are getting along well. St. Omar Conclave, Oklahoma City, recently elected Dr. L. L. Long, 33d, of Beaver, Sovereign; R. E. Newhouse, 32d, of Tulsa, Viceroy; H. L. Goddard, 33d, Oklahoma City, Treasurer; Harland T. Deupree, 32d and Knight Commander of the Court of Honour, of Guthrie, Recorder.

ECUADOR

The Grand Lodge of Ecuador, A.F.&A.M., elected Dr. Luis W. García Moreno Grand Master at its annual communication early this year. He had served in this capacity before. Other officers elected were Félix Enrique Puente, Deputy Grand Master; Dr. Sófoles Dávila, Grand Senior Warden; Chan Santon Taysing, Grand Junior Warden; Juan José Plaza (Past Grand Master), Grand Treasurer; José A. Vallejo Ycaza (Past Grand Master), re-elected Grand Secretary.

The Grand Lodge of Ecuador is in relations of amity with twenty-eight Grand Lodges in the United States. Though small, it is composed of men of standing and influence who have courageously stood against the frequent attacks made upon the Craft in that country. Capt. Colon Eloy Alfaro, Ambassador from Ecuador to the United States, has been, for a long time, an active and enthusiastic Mason and a 33rd degree Active Member of the Supreme Council of Ecuador.

A majority of the subordinate lodges of the Grand Lodge of Ecuador are located in Guayaquil.

MASSACHUSETTS STATISTICS

From a late report from the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts we learn there was a net loss for the year of 2,767 and a decrease in initiations of 308. There were 1,479 raised, 1,814 admitted, 178 reinstated; 228 died, 1020 demitted, 1,272 suspended, 434 discharged from membership, 5 expelled. There were 138 rejections.

The financial resources of the Grand Lodge amount to the striking total of \$5,524,967.18. Expenditures for benevolent purposes during the year amount to \$258,786.60. A Board of Masonic Re-

lief reported action in 94,595 "service cases."

Upon report and recommendation of a committee headed by W.M. Brother Melvin M. Johnson preparation and publication of a cipher ritual was authorized. There was also adopted a paragraph explaining that the imprecations are "wholly figurative."

A MASON SINCE 1861

One of the oldest Masons in this country is M. M. Mathis, 100-year-old citizen of Fairview, Okla., who became a Mason in a Paris, Tenn., Masonic Lodge in 1861, making him a member of the Craft for the past seventy-nine years. He recently attended the communication of the Grand Lodge of Oklahoma at Enid.

GARCIA PEDROSO RE-ELECTED

The Grand Lodge, A.F.&A.M., of Cuba re-elected Col. Gonzalo Garcia Pedrosa, Grand Master, Grand Secretary Dr. Constantino Pais, and Grand Treasurer Jose A. Fernandez, at its annual meeting in Havana on March 23, 1941.

The re-election of Grand Master Garcia Pedrosa met with popular acclaim from Cuban Masons, for he has been most successful in advancing the cause of Freemasonry in that country. It was a foregone conclusion that he would be main-

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tained in office. He is a close friend of Col. Fulgencio Batista, President of Cuba, the two having been non-commissioned officers together in the Cuban Army earlier in their careers.

Others elected at the Grand Lodge meeting were Francisco Miranda, Deputy Grand Master; Pedro Diaz, Grand Senior Warden; Jose A. Cobas Reyes, Grand Junior Warden; Luis Crespo, Grand Almoner; Rafael Soler, Grand Master of Ceremonies; Leovigildo Gonzalez Mesa, Grand Senior Deacon, and Ricardo Mestre, Grand Orator.

MEMORIAL TO MASON

An executive order, signed by President Franklin D. Roosevelt, set aside 72,000 acres of public land on Massanutten Mountain in Virginia as the "Robert Fechner Memorial Forest," thus honoring the first director of the Civilian Conservation Corps. Mr. Fechner, a Mason, died in 1940. He had established the first CCC Camp, Camp Roosevelt, in this area in 1933.

All Sorts

FIRST ASSIGNMENT

Film Producer: "Here's your double—in all dangerous parts he will take your place."

Star: "Good; just run to my home and tell my wife I'm going to the club tonight."

DRASTIC!

"How can you keep eating at the fraternity house?"

"Oh, I just take a tablespoonful of Drano three times a week."

EXPLICIT

"Zoup, sir?" asked the waiter.

"I don't know what you're talking about," said the diner.

"You know what hash is? Vell, zoup is looser."

STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL

A certain officer's confidential report had written on it, by his commanding officer: "This officer should go far."

The Brigadier added: "The farther the better," and finally the divisional commander wrote: "He should start at once."

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YES. HOW

Prof.: "Oxygen is essential to all animal existence. Life would be impossible without it. Yet, it was discovered only a hundred years ago."

Student: "What did they do before it was discovered?"

TRUE TO TYPE

Flossie: "You'll never catch me going out to dinner with an editor again."

Girl Friend: "Why? Was he broke?"

Flossie: "I don't know about that, but he put a blue pencil through about half my order."

MEBBE TOUGH, TOO

Caller: "I would like to see the judge, please."

Secretary: "I'm sorry, sir, but he is at dinner."

Caller: "But my man, my errand is important."

Secretary: "It can't be helped, sir. His honor is at steak."

TOO TRUE

The public buys its opinions as it buys its meat or takes in its milk, on the principle that it is cheaper to do this than to keep a cow. So it is, but the milk is more likely to be watered.—Samuel Butler.

MISCASTE

When the flood was over and Noah had freed all the animals, he returned to the ark to make sure all had left. He found two snakes in the corner, crying. They told him their sorrow:

"You told us to go forth and multiply upon the earth, and we are adders."

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LIMERICK

A young theologian named Fiddle
Refused to accept his degree,
For, said he, it's enough to be Fiddle
Without being Fiddle, D.D.

"O" MARKS THE SPOT

He rocked the boat,
Did Ezra Shank;
These bubbles mark

o
o
o
o
o
o

Where Ezra sank!

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To Public Speaking
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For at least an hour;
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He struts, he storms
And finally
With a stirring little poem
He remembers to introduce
The Speaker of the evening,
Who staggers to his feet
And finds he has
Not a single word to say
For his thunder has been stolen
By Mr. CHAIRMAN.

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